

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE****METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR AUTOMATICALLY CONFIGURING DATA  
STORAGE SUBSYSTEMS**

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A method and apparatus are disclosed in a data processing system for automatically replicating a first data storage subsystem's configuration data on a second data storage subsystem. Storage subsystems are peripherals of the data processing system and not standalone computer systems. Storage subsystems are inaccessible directly by users. A first data storage subsystem is specified as a parent subsystem. The first data storage subsystem is configured using a first configuration data. A second data storage subsystem is specified that is to be configured the same as the first data storage subsystem. The first or second data storage subsystem automatically initiates a transfer of a copy of the first configuration data from the first data storage subsystem to the second data storage subsystem. The second data storage subsystem configures itself using the copy of the first configuration data such that the second data storage subsystem is configured the same as the first data storage subsystem.